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ASTORIA, OREGON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1906

PRICE FIVE CENTS

VAN AUKE GETS AWAY

**Rainier Cashier Eludes
Officers, Escapes.**

HE GOES TO PORTLAND

**Boards Train at Rainier—Leaps
From Cars Before Depot
is Reached.**

MAKES ESCAPE VERY NEATLY

**Cashier Returns From Portland to Rai-
nier in Company of Detective Hart-
man—Looks Worried—Fails to
Raise Money.**

PORTLAND, Sept. 20.—A special to the Oregonian from Rainier states that C. S. Van Auker, cashier of the Rainier State bank, which was looted Sept. 3, tonight made his escape from Sheriff White. Shortly before the Portland train left, Van Auker left the sheriff for a moment on the pretense of paying a bill. He concealed himself until the train was leaving, when he boarded it. A telegraphic warrant was sent to Portland to apprehend Van Auker when the train arrived there.

Jumps From Train.

PORTLAND, Sept. 20.—By jumping from the train shortly before it reached the Union depot in this city, it is alleged, C. S. Van Auker tonight eluded the deputy sheriff who was on hand to arrest him. Persons acquainted with the man and those who were on the train state that Van Auker boarded the train after the Rainier officers had searched it.

RAINIER, Sept. 20.—C. S. Van Auker is packing up his belongings and preparing to leave this city. He has been unable to raise any of the missing cash which he declared that he would pay back to the bank by tonight. Van Auker has not been arrested nor is there a warrant out for his arrest. Detective Hartman is in close touch with the cashier. The detective declares that Van Auker will not leave the city alone.

This afternoon Van Auker shows signs of breaking down. He is very pale and for the first time since the reported robbery, is nervous. It is the opinion of the bank officials and Hartman that Van Auker will make a confession of some sort this afternoon. If not, he may be arrested tonight or tomorrow morning.

Constantly shadowed, day and night his every movement watched as though a price were on his head, Cashier C. S. Van Auker is on the rack. Detective L. C. Hartman, of Portland, known as one of the best detectives in the Northwest, is shadowing Van Auker.

Declaring that he was bound and robbed by two masked men on Labor day, when, he said that more than \$2,000 in gold was taken from the bank safe, Van Auker was flatly accused by investigators of having taken this money and using it in gambling. Inflexible as steel, the cashier maintains his innocence. He returned to this town from Portland in company with Hartman.

The cashier greeted his friends as pleasantly as though just returning from a picnic. Van Auker, it is said, has declared that he will return to the bank the sum that he reports was taken from him by robbers. He made this offer, he said, in order to hush the affair, being willing to lose such a sum rather than have any more trouble over it. He is now looking for the money with

which to make good his offer. This money so far is not forthcoming. It is said that if this cash is not returned to the bank, Van Auker's arrest may follow. In the meantime, the officers are searching for another Rainier man who is said to have some valuable information at the District Attorney's office.

Inquiries here to establish the fact that Cashier Van Auker was in Astoria about two weeks previous to the alleged robbery of the Rainier bank and that while here he played faro-bank, plunging heavily. On this, his last trip to Astoria, he stayed but one night, but in that time was reported to have cleaned up anywhere from \$1,000 to \$1,500. At one gambling house he is alleged to have won \$600. His remarkable winnings on this evening attracted considerable attention among the sporting fraternity, but not many knew who he was or where he hailed from.

Several times during the past Summer, it is stated, Van Auker has been seen in Astoria, and always frequenting gambling houses.

TERRIBLE WORK OF STORM.

HONG KONG, Sept. 20.—Practically all the Baluchistan troops and 300 of the West Kent regiment are co-operating today in clearing the wreckage of the recent typhoon. Prodigious efforts are being made for the recovery of the bodies, which are being carried away in cartloads. Many scavengers were overcome by the terrible stench, and Admiral Mundy, who is superintending the work collapsed, and was removed to the hospital.

WOMEN ARE INSANE

**Insanity Commission Declares
Holy Rollers Unbalanced.**

STATE MAY FIGHT VERDICT

**Prosecuting Attorney Declares Assassins
of George Creffield Are Not Insane
and Will Oppose Any Commitment to Asylum.**

SEATTLE, Sept. 20.—The Creffield-Mitchell insanity commission today reported to Judge Frater in the Superior court, that the women are insane, suffering from a nervous disease called paranoia. The commission declares that because of this disease they are unable to distinguish between right and wrong, and therefore are irresponsible criminally. Further, these individuals belong to a class of lunatics dangerous to the community, who persistently follow their morbid inclinations, regardless of law or ethics, and should be placed under restraint. After the report had been made, the Prosecuting Attorney stated that he was not satisfied with it, and in the name of the state would oppose it. Judge Frater stated that in his opinion the only way this could be done would be for the state to secure a restraining order from the Supreme court, preventing him sending the women back to Oregon until the matter can be decided. Pending taking the matter up, the judge said he would tomorrow commit the women to the state insane asylum.

A. P. ELECTS OFFICERS.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—At the annual meeting of the members of the Associated Press today, the retiring members, with the exception of A. P. Langtry of the Springfield Union, were all re-elected. The vacancy was filled by the election of General Charles H. Taylor of the Boston Globe.

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE.

At Portland—Fresno, 5; Portland, 1. At Seattle—Seattle, 2; San Francisco 1. At Oakland—Los Angeles, 8; Oakland, 1.

CONFERENCE CONTINUES

**Taft, Bacon, and Cubans
are Still Arguing.**

CUBANS MUST BEHAVE

**Secretaries Intimate U. S. May
Take Charge if Fighting
is Not Stopped.**

TRADE INTERESTS SUFFERING

**Commercial Interests Throughout Cuba
Have Suffered During Brief Conflict
More Than in Ten Years'
War.**

HAVANA, Sept. 20.—The second day of the conference with the leaders of the factions in the Cuban conflict has not enabled Secretaries Taft and Bacon to announce any plan for compromising the difficulty. So strenuous are the appeals of both the liberal and moderate party leaders that the situation becomes increasingly complicated as the negotiations proceed. However, Secretary Taft said tonight that he believed when they were brought face to face with the danger of losing their independence forever, all patriotic Cubans will be willing to make concessions. Taft has made it clear that the United States is not seeking to exercise control over the island or any of its affairs, but he quoted President Roosevelt's letter to Mr. Quesada to the effect that the United States has a duty which it cannot shirk. To those whom he met in conference, Taft has said now is the time to decide whether they will let Cuba live as a nation. He weighed every word carefully and neither upheld nor criticized the principles of either faction. Mayor Gardenas and a number of the principal officers of Havana paid a long visit to the secretaries today and argued that it was the duty of the United States to support and recognize the government. The mayor undertook to assist Taft to get in touch with the commercial interests and under Taft's instructions will direct the business guilds to send a delegate to talk with the mediators confidentially. The commercial interests of Cuba have suffered during the brief conflict more severely than during the ten years' war. Cuban, Spanish-American and other business men are talking of uniting in a petition to the secretaries urging a radical form of intervention or annexation. No reports of the disturbances anywhere on the island have been received today. Cienfuegos is suffering from a water famine, on account of the destruction of the waterworks at Jicotea by the insurgent commander.

START BIG SUIT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—The Examiner says today that the Sharron, Parrott estate, and California Wine Association have decided to combine in a \$500,000 suit against the British insurance companies, which by reason of an earthquake clause in their policies are refusing to settle their San Francisco losses in full.

The companies referred to include the Commercial Union, Alliance, Palatine and Norwich Union. Added to these are the Indemnity and Williamsburg City of this country, whose policies contain the same provision purporting to exempt them from liability for loss caused by earthquake.

MURDERER ARRESTED.

**Wife Murderer Wanted in Los Angeles
Found in Washington, D. C.**

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 20.—Telegraphic word was received at the sheriff's office from the Washington, D. C., police today, of the arrest of Anton Besold, indicted by the grand jury of Los Angeles for the murder of his wife, Claude Besold, the finding of whose body in Temescal Canyon several weeks ago formed a sensational mystery. Besold was a butcher at Santa Monica before his disappearance early this summer. The body of Mrs. Besold was found in the canyon by "Posty" Horton, of Calabasas. It was not known until today that the police were on the track of Besold or that the body found in the canyon had been identified as Mrs. Besold.

BISHOP HOARE DROWNED.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—Sir Matthew Nathan, governor of Hong Kong, sends a cablegram to the Colonial office, saying that there is strong evidence that Bishop Hoare was drowned in the typhoon and the loss of life among the Chinese will probably amount to several thousand.

WILL LEAVE SATURDAY.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—General Funston who arrived here today, will not leave here until Saturday for Havana, as he has found he cannot leave Tampa until Sunday. The general knows nothing of the duty for which he is destined.

DARKEST PROSPECT

**Famine Spectre Rises Ominously
in Russia.**

CROPS ARE DISAPPOINTMENT

**Volga Region, Most Fertile in Russia,
Fails to Yield Usual Harvest—
Peasantry Will Be Sure to
Suffer.**

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 19.—The official report just issued gives but little ground for expectation that the famine, which has already a grip on many provinces in Russia, will be less this winter. Although the winter wheat harvest was above the average, Spring wheat proved a disappointment. The rye and oat crops also were unsatisfactory, especially the latter. The Volga region, the most fertile in Russia, was below the average in both harvests. The Polish province and the Baltics, made the best showing, the harvest being an average. The winter wheat harvest was generally above the average and only poor in the Volga region and less than average in the eastern portion of the central agricultural district.

Rye was only above the average in Poland and the six southeastern provinces. Spring wheat was below the average throughout Russia. In the Volga region the harvest was bad and in Ufa, Tambov and Ryazan, among the largest provinces of the empire, unsatisfactory. Oats also made a bad showing and only in nine of the ten Polish provinces came up to the average. Barley was somewhat better being good in all the Polish provinces and fairly good in the Baltics, the southwestern provinces, a portion of Lithuania and in Vitebsk and Tver.

The Zemstvo coffers are empty through the failure of the peasants to pay taxes and all the work of relieving the famine falls on the central government.

BUCHTEL I SNOMINATED.

DENVER, Sept. 20.—The Republicans tonight nominated Henry A. Buchtel, the chancellor of Denver University, to succeed Philip B. Stewart as the Republican nominee for governor of Colorado.

HOLOCAUST IN TACOMA

**Fierce Conflagration Con-
sumes 182 Horses.**

ONE WOMAN PERISHES

**Flames Consume Two Large Livery
Barns, Restaurant and
the Depot.**

SHRIEKS OF HORSES AWFUL

**Efforts of the Firemen to Save Imprisoned
Animals Prove Fruitless—Tacoma
Eastern Passenger Depot
Is Destroyed.**

TACOMA, Sept. 20.—(Special).—Fire on Puyallup avenue and 24th street late tonight destroyed two livery stables, 182 horses, a restaurant, the Tacoma Eastern passenger depot, and a long viaduct. It is reported that an unknown woman in the restaurant was burned to death, but at this hour it cannot be confirmed. The scenes at the conflagration were awful, the terrible shrieks of the imprisoned and terrified horses being past words to describe. Efforts to release the animals proved fruitless because of their unmanageable condition. It is impossible to give details as yet.

ARMY IS PREPARED.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Preparation is the watchword of the army regarding Cuba. Not only have complete plans been prepared, but every department has made arrangements to meet the emergency of intervention, if it should occur. General Crozier, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, is now at the Rock Island arsenal and a few days ago visited the Frankfort arsenal at Philadelphia. As a result, considerable activity is displayed in getting ammunition for small arms and light field guns ready, in case orders for action are issued.

FATAL RECORD.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—A special cable dispatch to the Times states that a statistical paper on India just issued shows there were killed in that country by snakes and wild beasts 24,034 persons—21,880 by snake bites, 796 by tigers, 399 by leopards, and the rest by other animals. The number of cattle killed was 98,582. The other side of the account shows that 65,146 snakes and 16,121 wild animals were killed.

INSTALL ELECTRIC SYSTEM.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—The Southern Pacific today will begin the work of installing an electric system on its lines over the Sierra Nevada Mountains for the purpose of helping the heavy freight trains up the steep mountain grades by means of electric motors.

This undertaking has been contemplated for many years, and President Harriman recently determined to install land put it into operation. A corps of engineers have arrived at Truckee and will supervise the work, under the directions of the General Electric company who will build the plant necessary to operate the system.

Definite information has not yet been given out, but it is understood it will be a third rail system. The installation of this system is a radical change in railroad operation in the West. Powerful electric motors will take the places of the engines under the electric system.

WANTS DAMAGES.

**Referee Siler Files Suit for \$50,000
Against Nelson and Nolan.**

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—George Siler, who refereed the Gans-Nelson fight, today filed suit against Nelson and his manager, Nolan, for \$50,000 damages. Since the fight the defendants have repeatedly charged that Siler accepted money for his decision in favor of the negro, and that he did not see the foul blow on which he gave the decision to Gans. Siler declares these statements are untrue and therefore claims damages.

TERRORISM IN REVENGE.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 20.—In revenge for the execution of Zenadko Konovalnikovo, the assassin of General Min, the social democrats are sending forth a violent manifesto, directed against Emperor Nicholas and vowing the removal of another of the "props of a cowardly and murderous autocracy." The manifesto urges merciless annihilation of the enemies of the people, a life for a life, and a death for a death.

MAY SAVE SEATTLE.

VICTORIA, Sept. 20.—The steamer Salvor and the tugs Pioneer and Pilot tonight pulled at the stranded steamer City of Seattle, which is ashore at Trial Island, but failed to budge her. The passengers, 39 in number, were brought ashore and are at the local hotels. More cargo is being lightered and a further attempt to float to starboard.

A STRAIGHT TICKET

**"Allied" Democratic Leagues Oppose
Independence League.**

SULZER GETS ENDORSEMENT

**Address Calls for Straight Democratic
Ticket and Platform in Opposition
to Independence League—Five
Leagues Sign.**

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—An address signed by the "allied" Democratic organizations of New York to the Democratic delegates and voters of New York state, calling for a straight Democratic ticket and platform, in opposition to the Independence League and endorsing Congressman Sulzer for the nomination was issued to the newspapers today. The address bears the signatures of the following organizations: National Democratic club of New York City, the Jefferson League, American Anti-Trust League, Bryan Democratic League and the Federation of Working Men of the State of New York.

HOLD EXERCISES.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Yesterday was the 25th anniversary of the death of President Garfield at Elberon, N. J., and memorial exercises were held in the Elberon Casino, where adjoins the cottage where he died. The speakers were the Rev. Dr. C. J. Young, of New York, who visited him before he died, and Dr. Henry Root, U. S. A., one of his classmates. The Garfield Monument Association has been formed to erect a memorial to the late President at Elberon.

HENEY IS SELECTED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—The United Railroads has selected Francis J. Heney, the noted prosecutor of the Oregon land fraud operators, for a member of the board of arbitration, with the Rev. Peter C. Yorke, chosen by the unions, Father Yorke and Mr. Heney will select a third member of the board which will settle the question of hours and wages submitted by the union men.